

Slovakia

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



The Slovakia GYTS includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use as well as information on five determinants of tobacco use: access/availability and price, environmental tobacco smoke exposure (ETS), cessation, media and advertising, and school curriculum. These determinants are components Slovakia could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program. The Slovakia GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 7- 9, conducted in 2002.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Slovakia plus all 8 regions. At the first stage, schools were selected with probability proportional to enrollment size. At the second stage, classes were randomly selected and all students in selected classes were eligible to participate. The school response rate was 98.3%, the student response rate was 87.4%, and the overall response rate was 85.9%. A total of 4,594 students participated in the Slovakia GYTS.

Prevalence

64.3% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 69.9%, Girl = 58.0%)
 25.3% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 26.6%, Girl = 23.3%)
 24.3% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 25.5%, Girl = 22.5%)
 4.2% current daily cigarette smokers (Boy = 4.7%, Girl = 3.4%)
 11.7% currently smoke cigars (Boy = 12.3%, Girl = 10.5%)
 29.3% ever smokers initiated smoking before age 10 (Boy = 35.9%, Girl = 21.2%)
 22.9% never smokers likely to initiate smoking next year (Boy = 19.7%, Girl = 24.8%)

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

22.4% usually smoke in public places
 54.0% buy cigarettes in a store
 78.9% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Environmental Tobacco Smoke

79.0% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
 84.7% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
 76.8% think smoking should be banned from public places
 69.4% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 54.5% have one or more parents who smoke
 22.3% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

64.0% want to stop smoking
 80.8% tried to stop smoking during the past year
 71.9% have ever received help to stop smoking
 11.8% feel like having a cigarette first thing in the morning

Media and Advertising

29.5% saw anti-smoking messages vs. 77.4% saw pro-smoking messages on TV
 50.7% saw anti-smoking ads vs. 74.1% saw pro-smoking ads in newspapers or magazines
 25.3% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
 8.3% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

69.4% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
 55.3% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
 60.7% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- 25% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 24% currently smoke cigarettes; 4% current daily smokers; 12% currently smoke cigars; 23% of never smokers likely to initiate smoking next year.
- ETS exposure is very high – 8 in 10 students live in homes where others smoke in their presence; 8 in 10 are exposed to smoke in public places; Almost 5 in 10 have parents who smoke.
- 7 in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Almost 8 in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- 6 in 10 smokers want to quit; 1 in 10 feel like having a cigarette first thing in the morning.
- 3 in 10 students saw anti-smoking messages on TV vs. 8 in 10 saw pro messages; 5 in 10 saw anti ads in newspapers vs. 7 in 10 saw pro ads.
- 7 in 10 taught in school about dangers of smoking.